

REMARKS

Claims 37-65 and 67-82 are pending after entry of this response. Claims 38-40, 42-47, 49-53, 55-57, 60-65, 67-75, and 78-82 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-36 and 66 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue withdrawn and cancelled claims in a divisional or continuing application. Claim 37 has been amended to replace the phrase “an amino acid sequence” with “the amino acid sequence” as requested by the Examiner. No new matter is presented by the introduction of these claims and amendments.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the allowable subject matter upon compliance with formalities. Specifically, the Examiner requested that claim 37, line 3 be amended to change “an amino acid sequence” to “the amino acid sequence.” The Examiner further requested that a copy of the Biological Deposit Receipt be submitted, which applicants provide herein. With respect to the requested Statement of Biological Culture Deposit, applicants submit an unsigned copy of the Statement herein in order to expedite the review of the instant paper. The signed copy of the Statement of Biological Culture Deposit will be forthcoming shortly.

As a reminder, a restriction between product and process claims was previously issued. The Examiner has found independent product claim 37 to have allowable subject matter. Because the applicants elected claims directed to the product, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all of the limitations of the allowable product claim should be

considered for rejoinder. Applicants respectfully request that all withdrawn claims be rejoined in view of the allowable subject matter.

Thus, applicants respectfully submit that the invention as recited in the claims as presented herein is allowable over the art of record, and respectfully request that the respective rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims and allowance of this application. The applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendment and an action passing this case to issue is therefore respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided. Favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 2976-4055US2.

Respectfully submitted,
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